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| Subject: | Fwd: Testimony for Rick's Place -Charles County Board of Appeals Case# 1299 |
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I would like to submit this as testimony for Case 1299.

Respectfully,
Peter W Charney
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Sent from my Verizon Wireless Phone

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Subject: Testimony for Rick's Place -Charles County Board of Appeals Case# 1299

Date: Fri, Feb 15, 2013 9:40 am

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Please forgive me for not providing this testimony on Tuesday, 12 February 2013, regarding Case # 1299, Rick's Place Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, as I was a bit intimidated by the crowd. As a civil engineer, and resident of Charles County, I am compelled to testify on this matter in order to hopefully provide a somewhat unbiased assessment of this hearing. I say somewhat unbiased opinion in that I have used Mr. and Mrs. Turner's services (aka Rick's Place), and I can say nothing but good things of these hard working individuals. They provide a clean and needed service for hunters and farmers requiring meat processing.

First, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this issue. During the meeting on Tuesday, it was obvious that a number of the residences on Petzold Drive were not just complaining about the operation of Mr. & Mrs. Turner's Deer Processing business (aka slaughter house) but, the preponderance of the testimony centered around the volume of traffic utilizing the gravel (dirt) road. It was inferred that people utilizing Rick's Place were the sole reason for the deterioration of the gravel road. I contend just the opposite, as it's the people that live on the road are the major cause of the problem.

Please follow my logic. If Rick's Place processes 500 deer (an approximate number) during deer season, then the people that utilize the road must travel 2 times up, and down the road (one trip for drop off, and one trip for pick-up of the processed deer; that equates to 1000 trips up and back) (i.e. $500 \times 2 = 1000$ trips during the hunting season). By the way, approximately 60 percent of those deer are killed (aka harvested) during the three week period known as shotgun season starting on the Saturday after Thanksgiving (statistics provided by Maryland DNR).

There are sixteen (16) residences on Petzold Drive (according to the testimony provided on Tuesday), and if you assume that there are 2.5 vehicles (includes SUV's, trailers, campers, RV's, etc.) per residence, and that those vehicles travel just once per day out, and back in, then in one year's time, you get 14,600 trips conducted by the residents. (i.e., $2.5 \text{ vehicles} \times 16 \text{ residences} \times 365 \text{ days in a year} = 14,600 \text{ trips}$). You can also say that they only use the road on Monday thru Friday, and that would reduce the number of trips to 10,400 trips (i.e., $2.5 \text{ vehicles} \times 5 \text{ days per week} \times 52 \text{ weeks per year} \times 16 \text{ residences} = 10,400 \text{ trips}$). Let us not forget the other potential deliveries and pick-ups - i.e., school busses, FedEx, UPS, and Postal Service).

In simple math, the traffic associated with Rick's Place is less than 10 percent (actually 9.6 percent) of the problem. (i.e., $1000 \text{ trips for Ricks Place} / 10,400 \text{ trips for the residences} \times 100 = 9.6 \text{ percent}$). Therefore, 90.4 percent of the problem associated with the deterioration of the road is caused by the residences and other uses of the road – not just from Rick's Place).

It was also apparent from the meeting, that only a small number of people actually perform maintenance on the gravel road. It would seem prudent that instead of complaining about the traffic, and pointing fingers at only 9.4 percent of the problem that all the residents contribute to, that they band together to resolve the problem as a whole. Not all residences on Petzold Drive opposed this case of Rick's Place, and while a few that did oppose the operation, a large number of people support Mr. and Mrs. Turner's operation, as evident by the applause from the audience during the testimony.

I was reminded of the famous words from poet John Lydgate, later adapted by President Lincoln - and appearing in various permutations: "You can please some of the people all of the time, you can please all of the people some of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time".

I am also reminded of President Lincoln when he wrote: "I believe each individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruits of his labor so far as in no way does he interfere with any other man's rights." These are powerful words, from a well-respected President, I ask that you use the same thought, and seek Lincoln's wisdom, and God's blessing as you deliberate on this matter.

Respectfully, Peter W. Charney, 3426 Williamsburg Drive, Waldorf, MD 20601